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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 8728**  
Norio KIMURA et al. : Docket No. 2000-1761A  
Serial No. 09/742,386 : Group Art Unit 1763  
Filed December 22, 2000 : Examiner Karla A. Moore  
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR : **MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT**  
PROCESSING SEMICONDUCTOR  
SUBSTRATE

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**ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

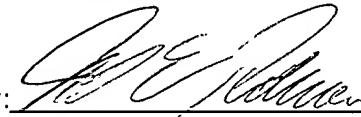
In response to the election requirement of December 1, 2004, Applicants in the above-referenced U.S. patent application hereby elect species I corresponding to Figs. 2-25 and 42-51. Claims 1-45 and 62-72 read upon the elected species.

Should the Examiner require anything further before issuing a first action on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Norio KIMURA et al.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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